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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/730,609	12/07/2000	Tadayuki Ito	H9876.0059/P059	9248
24998	7590	03/26/2004	EXAMINER	
DICKSTEIN SHAPIRO MORIN & OSHINSKY LLP 2101 L STREET NW WASHINGTON, DC 20037-1526			WU, JINGGE	
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
		2623	L	
DATE MAILED: 03/26/2004				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/730,609	ITO, TADAYUKI
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Jingge Wu	2623

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 December 2000.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-7,11-17 and 21 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) 8-10 and 18-20 is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____. |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>2,3</u> . | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in-

- (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effect under this subsection of a national application published under section 122(b) only if the international application designating the United States was published under Article 21(2)(a) of such treaty in the English language; or
- (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that a patent shall not be deemed filed in the United States for the purposes of this subsection based on the filing of an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a).

Claims 1-7, 11-17, and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by US 6304268 to Lourcha et al.

As to claim 1, Lourcha discloses an image processing method comprising:
operating on a pixel by pixel basis texture coordinates and LOD values from the object data (primitive) (fig. 15, abstract, col. 15 lines 47-64);
determining based on the LOD values a filtering domain of texels (206) read from a texture memory (fig. 15, col. 15 line 47-col. 16 line 7);
acquiring a weighted average (equations 6 and 18) depend on said texture coordinates and the size of the determined filtering domain (206) to create a texture color to be pasted to said object (fig. 14-15, col. 14, lines 1-18, col. 15 line 34-col. 16 line 14).

As to claim 2, Lourcha further discloses the texels read from the texture memory is determined based on coordinates and LOD values (col. 15 line 47-64).

As to claim 3, Lourcha further discloses determination of the texel filtering domain is performed by use of two dimensional LOD values (fig. 1-2, col. 5 lines 50-67).

As to claim 4, Lourcha further discloses an offset value (fraction) is added with a predetermined preset parameter to modify the LOD (col. 5, line 50-col. 6 line 22).

As to claim 5, Lourcha further discloses in the process of determining the filtering domain, depending on the LOD values and a parameter (d, d=0...n) for designating the manner of selecting a plurality of midmap data (fig. 1 and 15, col. 5 lines 50-67, col. 15 lines 47-64).

As to claim 6, Lourcha further discloses the number of texels required to acquire a texture color is determined in accordance with a predetermined flag (d, d=1....n) (fig. 1 and 15, col. 5 lines 50-67, col. 15 line 47-col. 16 line 14).

As to claim 7, Lourcha further discloses in the process of determining the filtering domain, depending on a parameter (d, d=1...n) for selecting whether or not a plurality of values of the LOD values are to be united to any one, in compliance with the parameter for designating the manner of selecting the plurality of mipmap data (fig. 1 and 15, col. 5 lines 50-67, col. 15 lines 47-64).

Claims 11-17 and 21 are the corresponding apparatus claims to claims 1-7 respectively. The discussion are addressed with regard to claims 1-7.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 8 and 18 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 9-10, and 19-20 depend from claims 8 and 18 , therefore, are objected.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications should be directed to Jingge Wu whose telephone number is (703) 308-9588. He can normally be reached Monday through Thursday from 8:00 am to 5:30 pm. The examiner can be also reached on second alternate Fridays.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to TC customer service whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Amelia Au, can be reached at (703) 308-6604.

The Working Group Fax number is (703) 872-9314.

Jingge Wu

Primary Patent Examiner